VOLUME I. MAY, 1890. NUMBER 5.

THE HOOSIER STAMP.

A SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY JOURNAL.

CHARLES E. BABCOCK,
EDITOR,
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

HAROLD VAN TRUMP,
PUBLISHER,
ROCHESTER, INDIANA.

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1868 6 12 20 c.....25c
JUANA SANCEDO,
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City of Mexico, Mexico.

Mr. I. A. MEKEEL.

Mr. GEO D. MEKEEL.

Mr. SAMUEL S. ATWOOD.

Mr. C. H. MEKEEL.

THE HOOSIER STAMP.

VOL. 1. MAY 1, 1892. NO. 5.

Bi-ography of Mr. Samuel S. Atwood, of Philadelphia, Pa.

We take pleasure in presenting our readers with a likeness of Mr. Samuel Snow Atwood, a well known young man in philatelic circles.

Mr. Atwood was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on the 5th day of February 1873. When he was seven years old he started to school where he remained until he was fourteen when he left the senior class and entered Pierce's Business College where studied and learned the laws and rules of business. In 1888 he entered his fathers store where he is at present. In 1883 he first became interested in stamps and started a collection which was soon dropped.

In 1890 the stamp fever again took him and his collection was increased to over 3000 varieties. last October he sold his foreign stamps, retaining his United States of which he is making a specialty. Mr. Atwood is secratary of the U. P. A. a flourishing philatelic society. Until recently he has delt in stamps, but on joining the Barrett Dramatic Club he sold his stock as his time was so much occupied by rehearsals etc. He made his debut at Ambler, Pa., in the play Miceal Earle. Since then he has joined the Quaker City Co., and is rehearsing the part of Mr. Woodcock in the play "Woodcock's Little Game," a high comedy. We think our readers will join us in wishing Mr. Atwood success in his career as an actor.

The Indiana Philatelic Society.

A new society for stamp collectors. All honest collectors in the U. S. and Canada are invited to join at once so they can vote at the election which will be held about June 10th. Initiation fee 5c. Yearly dues only 25 cents. Members receive official organ free of charge. The object of the society is the sale and exchange of stamps, philatelic literature, etc. Send your initiation fee and receive particulars by return mail. C. W. Peugh, Kossouth, Ind.

The Next Number.

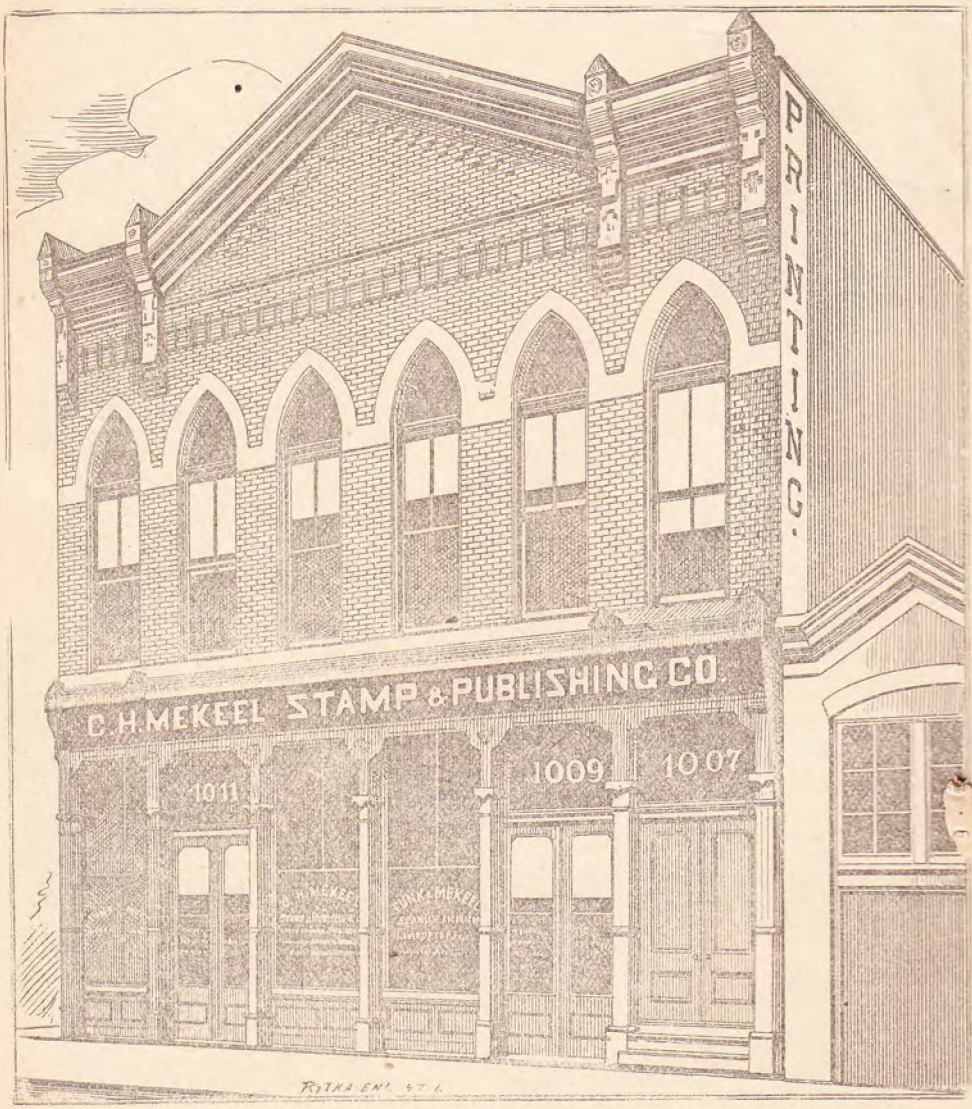
The June number will contain the portraits of several prominent collectors besides some very interesting articles, notes, etc. Four thousand copies will be issued and about one third of this number will be sent to foreign countries. This will be an excellent chance for dealers and collectors desiring foreign correspondance. Advertistug rates for this number alone $1.00 per inch, three month contracts can be made at regular rates 50 per inch per insertion. Cash MUST accompany copy.

A Modern Stamp Company.

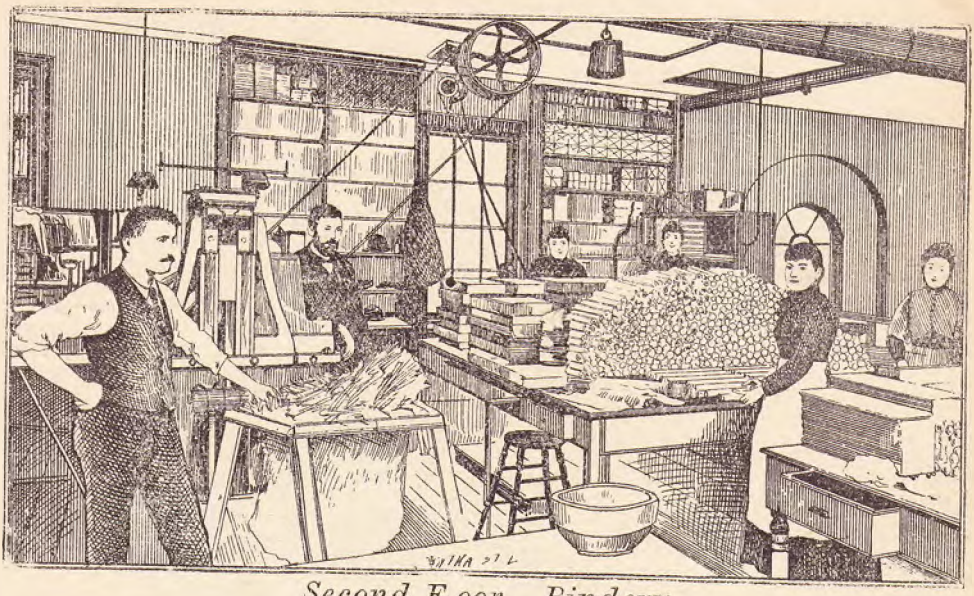
Reprinted from the Philatelic Journal of America by special permission of the publisher.

There is no line of trade so little understood by the general public as the stamp business. To the collector it is less of a mystery, but even they have peculiar and imperfect ideas of it, due to the fact that almost every dealer conducts his business on different principles.

The United States has its full proportion of dealers and collectors, and the growth of some of the former has been truly marvelous. Although St. Louis

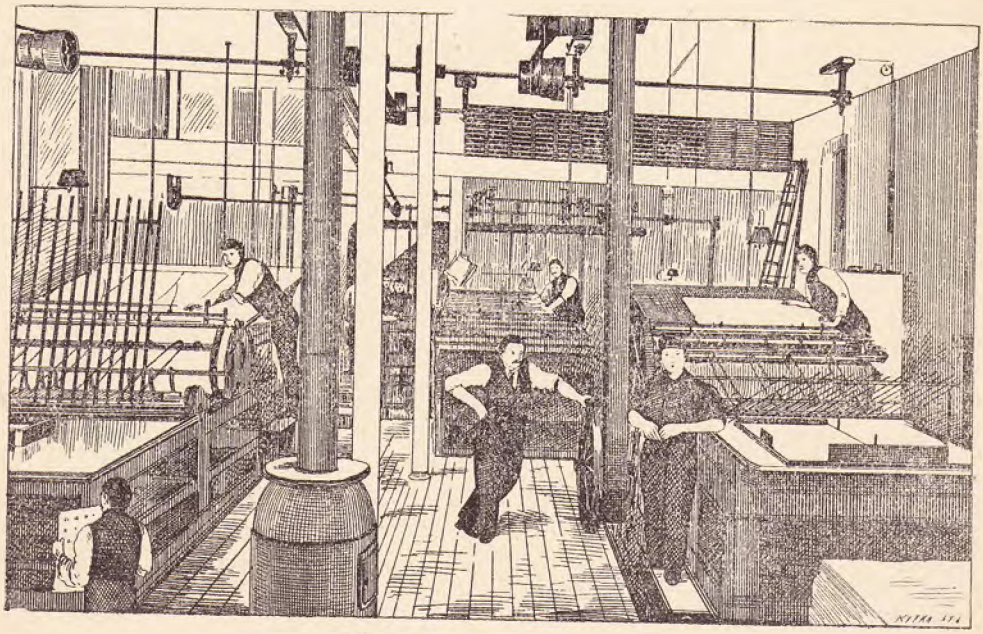


Building of the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.



Second Floor Bindery.

cannot boast of the oldest, it has the largest incorporated stamp company in the United States, the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co., with a paid up capital stock of $100,000.00. This company also leases the copyrights and controls the Philatelic Publishing Co., which is incorporated for $3,000.00, so that the actual capital invested in the business is $103,000.00 and this is wholly the STAMP and PHILATELIC PUBLISHING business.



Back First Floor. Press Room.

Mr. C. H. Mekeel's other interests in exporting, printing and other business are not represented in these figures, they being seperate concerns.

There is a great difference between the stamp business in New York City and St. Louis. In the former city office trade and auction sales are very important features, while in St. Louis these particular departments amounts to very little, and it is the mail trade they depend upon.

Their stamp customers extend from Maine to California, and in almost every county in the country. There is no doubt but they control the largest mail stamp trade in the U. S. Their business is so carefully systemised that each order or letter is promptly attended to upon day of receipt. The regular office force is twenty-seven and each has his or her special work to perform.

This business was established fifteen years ago by C. H. Mekeel in Chicago, at least that was the time the first price-list was published, the stock at that time was very small, being carried to school each day in the pockets of the proprietor. It was four years later, in 1881 he published his first stamp paper, the STAMP COLLECTORS' BUREAU. This suffered the fate of all amatuer papers, and was discontinued in less than two years. In these years the stamp business was increasing a little, but was always kept secondary to studies and other business. In 1885 the PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF AMERICA was published from St. Louis. During this year he bought out and managed the Carson Stamp Co., of St. Louis. Mr. Mekeel was induced to change his residence from Chicago by his wife, who was a St. Louis lady, and whom he married in 1885. He has had three children, two now living, a little girl three years old and and a baby not quite a year old.

Until coming to St. Louis the business never justified the proprietor in devoting his whole time to it, and even the first years in St. Louis Mr. Mekeel was in the employ of the Wabash Railway. While still with the railroad company he opened an office in the the Turner Building for the stamp business, his brother, George D. Mekeel having personal charge of same.

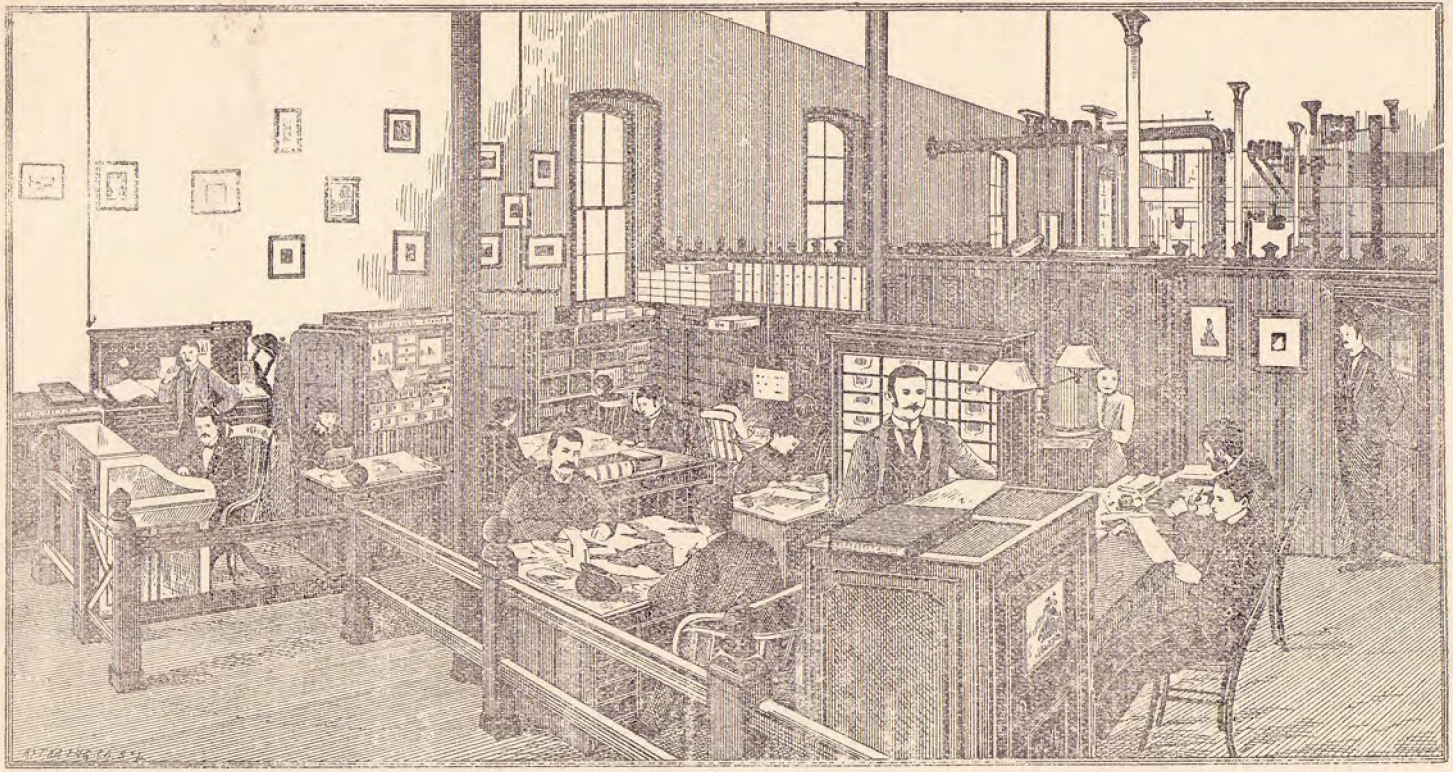
Mr. G. D. Mekeel is a graduate of the Oakwood Academy and has full charge of the books of the company and is the Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. I. A. Mekeel has only been connected with the firm for the past three years, having been completing his education in the east. He has charge of the Approval Department, and has been most successful in supplying the wants of their patrons, as hundreds of our readers can no doubt testify.

The illustrations accompanying this article represents the building and its interior views. The office is on the main floor, back of which is the press room. The second floor is the composing room, a third floor in back part of the building is used as a bindery and store room for stamp albums, books and other bulky stock. These views are given for the benefit of such patrons as are unable to visit this bee hive of enterprise.

Honest straightforward fair dealing, together with the keen business ability of the promoters have made the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company what it is, and a brilliant future may be predicted for it.

It is the imperitive duty of every collector in the state of Indiana to become a member of the Indiana Philatelic Society. The publisher of this paper would be pleased to sign the application blank of any honest collector.



Office of the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company.

Numismatic Notes.

What becomes of all the pennies? It seems to be with them very much as it is with pins—nobody knows where and how they disappear. Yet they vanish in some fashion. Last year the Philadelphia mint coined 94,000,000 pennies. It would take a good sized building to hold so many but they did not begin to supply the never-satisfied demand for them. Just now the establishment referred to is hard at work manufacturing further supplies, and so it will continue. Bronze cents are subject to more accidents than happen to any other United States coins. It is said that a penny changes hands in trade ten times for once that a dime passes from one pocket to another. Being of small value these little pieces are not taken much care of. There are a thousand ways in which they get out of circulation and thus the minting of them has to be kept up continually. The metal blanks from which they are made, by the simple process of stamping, are turned out by contract for Uncle Sam by a Connecticut factory at the rate of a thousand for a dollar. As they come from the machines fresh and new, they look like glittering gold. One may get an idea of the number of pennies lost from the history of the old half cents. Of these 800,000 were issued a few years ago. Where are they now? A few are in the cabinets of coin collectors. None have been returned to the mint for recoinage or held by the treasury. Nobody sees them in circulation. All of them, except a few hundred saved by curio hunters, have absolutely disappeared. Of the old copper cents 119,000,000 still remain unaccounted for, save that once in a long while one sees a specimen. There are more than 3 000,000 bronze 2 cent peices somewhere, out of 4.500,00 issued by the Government. Of nickel 3 cent pieces nearly 2,000,000 are still outstanding, although it is seldom that one of them is come across.

* * *

For several hundred years and down to a comparatively recent date money was coined at from 25 to 30 different cities in France that had inherited the privilege. Now all French money is coined at the Paris mint and bears, instead of the effigy of some destinguished person, a head representing the republic, or liberty in a more general sense. Few French gold peices are, however, in circulation except those bearing the head of Napoleon III, and silver pieces af the same coinage are almost as common. French silver coins wear admirably and peices of the reigns of Charles I, Louis XVIII and Napolean I are common.

* * *

The original method of making a coin was by placing a given weight of metal, after it had been softened, over a die upon which a national symbol or emblem was engraved, and then pounding it with a hammer until a good impression was obtained. They were rude and battered and showed a die impression on one side only, the other bearing the rough marks of the hammer. The earliest Greek coins were of silver, whereas those of Lydia were of gold or electron—gold and silver. They were of a sacred character and the old inscriptions were succeeded by representations of the deities.

THE HOOSIER STAMP.

A Monthy Philatelic Magizine.

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To U. S. and Canada 25 cents per year. Abroad 40 cents per year.

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50 cents per inch, regardless of time or space occupied.

CHARLES E. BABCOCK, EDITOR, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

HAROLD VAN TRUMP, PUBLISHER, ROCHESTER, IND.

ENTERED AT THE INDIANAPOLIS, IND. P. O. AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

A CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to thank the dealers who have so promptly responded our requests for advertising, and the numerous collectors who have sent us their subscriptions, also our contemporaries for their many flattering notices. We will endeavor to merit your patronage and good wishes. The HOOSIER STAMP is now on the road to success and will improve with each issue.

MANUSCRIPT WANTED.

Manuscript Wanted. We wish all our readers would send us some original article on any branch of science. State lowest price and enclose postage for return in case of rejection.

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Several typographical errors appeared in our last issue owing to the publishers somewhat limited knowledge of printing and also to the very brief time in which that number was prepared.

***

It was our intention to increase our subscription price to 50 cents per annum with this issue, but we have decided to give every collector a chance to subscribe at the present rates and will accept 25 cent for a years subscription if sent at once.

***

The egg collecting season is here in full blast. Here-after we will devote some space to oological articles, notes, etc., and hope you will show your appreciation by sending us 25 cents for a years subscription. With the next issue the subscription price will be doubled.

***

We want agents for this paper in all large cities and one for each foreign country. Write for terms and enclose stamp for reply.

It is the imperitive duty of every collector in the state of Indiana to become a member of the Indiana Philatelic Society. The publisher of this paper would be pleased to sign the application blank of any honest collector.

* *
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Mr. G. S. Dickinson, of Worcester, Mass., has paid his subscription to the HOOSIER STAMP to May 1896. That shows that there is one person, at least, who has no fear of our "going under" for some time.

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Henry Mc Connell, of Clarion, Mich., is preparing to make a western trip in hope of improving his health, and is compelled to give up his stamp business for a while.

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We note that a young stamp dealer (?) of Palmyra, Wis., is working the million stamp racket. Some-body is evidently looking for trouble.

* *
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"The HOOSIER STAMP at hand and is very interesting, as much so as some of the higher priced papers. May you live long and become one of the leading papers." Forrest S. Hayes, Galva, Ill.

"Your paper is a dandy." C. W. Peugh, Kossouth, Ind.

"I am well pleased with my 40 cent investment for an inch 'ad.' in the Hoosier Stamp, as I have received twice as many answers from it as I did from the same space in the Eastern Philatelist, (rates 60c. per inch) and the Post Office (rates $1.00 per inch.)" P. B. Hawk, East Branch, New York.

The above are a few unsolicited testimonials showing that our paper is valued by both collectors and dealers.

* *
*

We have several hundred *unused two cent post cards valued at 25 cents* each which we will send *free* to any one subscribing to this paper if they enclose a 2 cent stamp for return postage. Send soon as they will not last long. Also read the article entitled "A New Society."

* *
*

NOTES, COMMENTS AND REVIEWS.

By "DIXEY."

E. P. Newcomer seems to have soured on Chicago from the way he is always jumping onto it through the papers every chance he gets. What the matter with you E. P. your liver must be out of order.

The February number of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST contains a portrait and biography of J. R. Hooper the well known Canadian Collector.

PLAIN TALK, while a very good youths paper, does not amount to as much philatelically as it did when Richmond first took hold. Whats the matter Davidson, we want more than a fourth page which is all you give us last month.

The LONG ISLAND PHILATELIST is the latest. It is from Brooklyn and is published by Messrs. Ashcroft and Ogden. It is a beautiful specimen of the printers art and contains many newsy articles. It walks over F. G. A. Rice's collar button with apparently just cause. But of course there are two sides to every story.

It is proposed to resuscitate the Brooklyn Philatelic Society (not Club) which was discontinued about a year ago. The membership was mostly of the younger collectors.

A Nova Scotia shilling stamp recently sold for $40.00. By the way look out for counterfeit 6 pence Nova Scotia.

S. B. Ross has resigned his position as member of the Board of Trustees of the Western Philatelic Union and has been appointed Librarian.

Mr. Sellschopp of San Francisco has a complete collection of old German States stamps, including the envelopes, entire.

Mr. E. C. Bigger is to take an overland trip from Fremont, Neb, to Toronto, Can. as soon as the weather will permit. He will visit collectors on the way. A "write up" of a journey of this kind would make exceedingly interesting reading.

Sokotra, an island in the Gulf of Aden, is the latest British Possession to issue stamps. I am informed that the island is of quite a decent size—about the size of Long Island. Why shouldn't the U. S. issue provisionals for Long Island, Alaska, and a few other places not in the main body. They surely would make good money selling them to collectors and there would be just as much sense in issueing them as there is for such little one-horse places as Sokotra.

The MISSOURI PHILATELIST is publishing a serial entitled "Jim and Mr. Cranky, or Working for a Stamp Dealer." It reminds one of an adaption from the BOYS OF NEW YORK'S favorite author, Peter Pad, or some other equally famous writer of the same stripe. Will Editor Conrath please rise and explain what this serial has to do with philately.

Down in San Antontio, Texas philately seems to have taken quite a boom as they have organized a second society to be called the San Antonio Philatelic Club, which will be a branch of the A. P. A., and be composed of the *elite* of San Antonio's philatelic population.

The C. H. Mekeel Concern announce a new album for U. S. stamps. giving space for every-thing from adhesives to envelopes, revenues, etc.

Look out for Ecuador fiscals used postally, as there are in circulation a good many with forged post-marks.

Surely but slowly post card collecting is adding more followers. You now find that almost all general collectors have added a department devoted to cards and a good many are making a specialty of them. A good collection of entire cards makes an interesting and beautiful display.

A philatelic society has been formed at Colon, Isthmus of Panama called the Philatelic Society of Isthmus of Panama, of which Mr. Eugene Lebeuf is secretary.

A Review of our Contemporaries.

Exchanges desiring mention in this column will please send one copy to the publisher, regularly.

The *International Philatelic Monthly* is a new one from Taunton, Mass. Typographically it is not up to the standard, and the articles sound rather amatuerish. The editorials, however, are crisp and interesting.

The *Oologist*, published by Frank H. Lattin, of Albion, N. Y., is or should be, a very indispensible part of every collectors library. We advise our readers who are interested in ornithology or oology to send 50 cents for a years subscription.

The *Collector*, the official organ of that live and growing society the Sons of Philatelia, prints an article entitled "Shall We Have A National Society," in which the writer exactly voices our sentiments.

We note, with pleasure, the re-appearance of the *Post Card*. If it follows in its former steps Mr. Mekeel will have gaurd closely his laurels gained as publisher of "philatelys only weekly champion."

The much talked of and advertised "Philatelic Review of Reviews" published by the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* does not, in our opinion, in any excell that published monthly by the *Philatelic Era*. of Portland, Me.

The *Empire State Exchange* is an interesting collectors paper published at Eden Valley, N. Y. It devotes some space to philately.

The *Long Island Philatelist* published by Mr. Ralph Ashcroft, late editor of the *Brooklyn Philatelist* is a new candidate for philatelic favor. It is a very credible effort.

The *Numismatist* for April contains a portrait of Mr. Joseph Hooper of Port Hope, Ont., vice president of the American Numismatic Association, besides some very interesting articles, notes, etc. It is published by Dr. Geo. F. Heath the well known philatelist and numismatist.

The consolidation of the *Spy Glass* and *Eagle Philatelist* is the latest. Messrs. Greene and Swanbeck will no doubt bring the *Spy Glass* rapidly to the front. Consolidations seem to be rather numerous lately.

The *Philatelic Tribune* comes to hand with a blush colored cover and smilingly announces that it is now a semi-monthly.

The *New York Stamp*, published by Messrs. Grevning and Spooner, is a new one. It consists of 12 pages and cover and presents a very credable appearance. The contents are exceptionally good. Here's success to you.

The *Missouri Philatelist* completes its first volume with the April issue and looks very prosperous having several pages of local advertising, which is quite an unusual thing for a stamp paper.

A New Society

Is not needed if you become a subscriber to the HOOSIER STAMP as we are offering subscribers all the benefits of a philatelic society. A careful perusal of the following cannot help but convince you that it is to your advantage to subscribe at once.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

Our exchange column is for the free use of our subscribers and cannot fail to be of great value to you as our paper is read by at least 4000 collectors monthly. You can thus easily get correspondants among either advanced collectors or beginners.

COLLECTORS DIRECTORY

Is also open for one free insertion of your name and address. This secures you sample copies of philatelic papers, dealers price lists, correspondance, etc.

MONTHLY AUCTION SALES

Our subscribers are invited to send us their duplicates (no lot or set of stamps to calologue at less than 50 cents) date of issue and value to be plainly marked, to be disposed of at our monthly auction sales. A fee of 10 per cent of the amount the stamps bring will be charged to defray the expense of catologueing and postage. All bids by mail. No charges for buying.

COLLECTING BUREAU

For collecting bad debts. No charges mady except for postage actually expended.

LIBRARY

We have a number of complete volumes and odd numbers of stamp and natural history magizines, auction sale catologues, etc., (a list of which will be mailed subscribers,) which will be loaned if postage is sent.

PURCHASING AGENCY

We are making preparation and will have a purchasing agency ready for operation with the next issue.

---

2 Stamps Free *2 stamps, worth 25 c. free to all sending me 25 cents for a year's subscription to this paper.*

CHARLES E BABCOCK,
244 COLLEGE AVE.
INDIANPOLIS, INDIANA.

Birds' Eggs
and Naturalists Supplies.
Egg drill, Blowpipe and Embryo hook nickel plated, in neat pocket case, only 35c. (regular price 60c.) Illustrated catologue for 2c. stamp.
Chas. K. Reed, 262 Main St.
Worcester, Mass.

I Want to Buy All kinds of UNITED STATES stamps, especially the GRILLED issue of 1870 also collections of 700 or more, varieties.

I Want to Sell Stamps to collectors from APPROVAL SHEETS, To any person sending a 2 cent stamp for my sheets at 33⅓ per cent commission I will give an entire JAMAICA WRAPPER FREE. State number of varieties in your collection.

I Want to Exchange Stamps with collectors. I will allow you good value for your stamps. Send me your sheets or lose stamps and I will forward mine.

2 Stamps Free *2 stamps, worth 25 c. free to all sending me 25 cents for a year's subscription to this paper.*

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Stamps on Approval

33⅓ per cent commission on Foreign 20 per cent on U. S. 400 varieties of postage stamps only $ 1.00 post free. Foreign postal cards and Envelopes for sale cheap. Correspondence solicited. A. J. GILLETT,

170 Bellefountaine St,
Indianapolis, Ind.

BARGAIN COLUMN.

TERMS.

Half cent per word. No advertisment inserted for less than 10 cents. No display allowed.

Unused Jamaica wrapper FREE to those sending 2c stamp for sheets. 33⅓ per cent discount. 5c stamp to first ten answering. Chas. Babcock. 244 College Ave. Indianapolis, Ind.

FOR SALE. Large collection of bird eggs, with cabiuet. Also books on birds, eggs, and natural history. Harold Van Trump, Rochester, Ind.

The publisher of this paper has a few duplicates of good stamps which will be sold at a *very low price.* Send reference for sheets.

EXCHANGE DEP'T.

TERMS.

Subscribers can have use of this column. Limit 20 words. Advertisment inserted at 3 cents per word.

Forrest S. Hayes, Galva, Ill., has a silver watch, 2500 cigarette cards, 20 cig. albums, 300 tin tags, 200 stamp papers, and 150 amatuer paper to x for good stamps.

The American and Collecter 6 months for 10 covered philatelic papers. F. B. Estabrook & Co, Marlboro. Mass.

$1.50 worth of foreign stamps for every $1.00 worth of old U. S. adhesives. H.F.Kantner, 230 Penn St, Reading, Penn.

TOOK ROTIS!

We allow 50 per cent discount on our unxld approval sheets send reference and receive selection. 50 cents worth free to all becoming our agent.

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Contains 100 var. of GOOD and RARE stamps ONLY such as U. S., 1872, 90 c., and many very rare and desirable stamps. Catologudd at over $4.00. My price only $1.00 post free.

J. C. Miller, Coal Valley, Pa.

IF IN DOUBT

remember the DETROIT PHILATELIST, is the best monthly jounal published at 15 cents per annum. It consists of 12 pages and cover, filled with interesting articles notes, etc. Sample copy free. Advertising rates on application

FREE!

3 unused foreign stamps to all sending for my choice approval sheets at 33⅓ per cent discount and enclosing stamp.

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169 12TH ST. DETROIT, MICH.

STAMPS—ALL GENUINE. 100 all different, Heligoland, Japan, Spain, Hamburg, etc, with fine Stamp Album, *only 10c.* EVERY COLLECTOR should send for our FREE price lists, etc, and save money. The *finest approval sheets in America* at from 33⅓ to 50% discount. AGENTS WANTED! (*Valuable premiums!*) We buy old U. S. and Confed. States stamps, also stamp collections. Highest cash. Write us. **Standard Stamp Co.**, 925 LaSalle Street, St. Louis, Mo.
Largest stamp [illegible]

If You
Want to
Make YOUR
Money
Earn Money
Advertise
In the
HOOSIER STAMP.

HOOSIER PACKET NO. 1.

Contains over 150 VARIETIES of used and unused stamps catologued at over $4.00. Price $1.10 post free. 10 stamps in this packet are alone worth the price of the entire packet and many are catologued from 10 to 15 cents each.

HOOSEIR PACKET NO. 2.

Contains over 100 used and unused stamps, all different, catologued at over $2.00. Price 50 cents, post free, 4 stamps in this packet are alone worth the price of the entire packet, while many are catologued from 5 to 10 cents each.

HOOSIER PACKET NO. 3.

Contains over 50 varieties of used and unused stamps catologued at $1.00. Price 25 cents post free.

Stamps in above packets are GUARENTEED GENUINE.

ADVERTISMENTS FOR THIS PAPER RECEIVED AT 10 PER CENT DISCOUNT FROM REGULAR RATES.

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Indianapolis, Indiana.

Important ✦ Announcemts.

THE PHILATELIC DIRECTORY will be issued about June 1, 1892 It will contain adout 20 pages of interesting articles, besides the names of several thousand collectors, dealers directory, exchange column, advertisments, etc, Names inserted free. Collectors who remit 20 cents in advance for a copy can have a 15 word x notice FREE, 2000 COPIES will be issued. Rates $2.00 per page, (7x5) half page $1.25 fourth page 75 cents. Card in directory 25 cents. Cash MUST accompany all orders.

The Naturalists Directory will be issued about June first. It will give the common and scientific name of every known North American bird. These names are numbered according to both Ridgeway's and A. O. U nomenclature. It gives the value of the eggs listed, thus making it invaluable as a basis on which to make exchages It also gives other valuable information. Also a directory, exchange column, etc. Names inserted in directory free.

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